

## Message Text

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NESCO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, OCON, UNESCO

SUBJECT: ORGANIZATION OF WORK OF 19TH GENERAL  
CONFERENCE: DRAFTING AND NEGOTIATION GROUP (DNG)

REFS : A) STATE 221043 B) DOC. 100 EX/43

1. DEPT. FULLY SHARES DG'S GOAL OF DEPOLITICIZING WORK OF  
GC TO MAXIMUM EXTENT POSSIBLE AND WELCOMES REFDG.  
PROPOSALS. DNG CONCEPT DOES, HOWEVER, RAISE A NUMBER OF  
IMPORTANT QUESTIONS WHICH DEPT. BELIEVES COULD BE USEFULLY  
DISCUSSED WITH IG MEMBERS AND OTHER DELS, AS WELL AS  
MEMBERS OF SECRETARIAT, ON A SELECTIVE BASIS.

2. KEY PROVISION IS PARA. 14, WHICH DEALS WITH PROCEDURE  
TO BE FOLLOWED IN EVENT OF, IN EFFECT, BREAKDOWN OF DNG,  
I.E. WHEN IT FAILS TO REACH CONSENSUS. U.S. STRATEGY  
SHOULD SEEK TO MINIMIZE RECOURSE TO PARA. 14 PROCEDURE.  
RANGE OF ACTION OFFERED BY PARAS. 9 THROUGH 12 IS  
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SUFFICIENTLY BROAD -- AND IMAGINATIVE -- TO ENABLE DNG TO

FUNCTION EFFECTIVELY IF THERE IS REAL DESIRE TO MAKE IT SUCCEED.

3. DEPT. BELIEVES IT IS DANGEROUS AND SELF-DEFEATING FOR UNESCO, IN AREAS OF CONTENTION, TO PRESS FOR ACTION BEYOND POINT OF CONSENSUS. IDEALLY, PARA. 14 SHOULD BE DELETED ON GROUND THAT PLENARY SHOULD BE FORUM FOR COOPERATION NOT CONFRONTATION, AND WE ARE CONSIDERING MAKING FORMAL PROPOSAL TO THIS EFFECT IN EX BD, DESPITE OUR REALISTIC ASSESSMENT THAT IT WOULD HAVE LITTLE CHANCE TO SUCCEED. PERM DEL'S VIEWS WOULD BE APPRECIATED.

4. ANOTHER MAJOR QUESTION INVOLVES DNG'S PURVIEW. IF GOAL IS IN FACT TO DEPOLITICIZE PLENARY, WE BELIEVE MANY MORE CONTROVERSIAL ITEMS SHOULD BE ADDED TO PARA. 6. LATTER ALREADY MAKES THIS POSSIBLE AT LATER DATE, BUT WE BELIEVE THIS BROADER FRAMEWORK FOR DNG SHOULD BE FIRMLY ESTABLISHED AT OUTSET AND PROPOSE THAT EX BD BE ASKED TO RECOMMEND ADDITION OF ITEMS 68 THROUGH 71, 75 THROUGH 77 AND, AS PROPOSED BY M'BOW (PARIS 26323), ITEM 45. AT SAME TIME, WE WOULD LIKE FOR COMMISSION AND GENERAL COMMITTEE OF CONFERENCE TO HAVE FLEXIBILITY OF BEING ABLE TO REFER TO DNG NOT ONLY OTHER ITEMS BUT ANY RESOLUTIONS OF A CONTROVERSIAL NATURE THAT COULD POLITICIZE PLENARY OR GET IN WAY OF COMMISSIONS' WORK.

5. IF DNG'S TERMS OF REFERENCE ARE EXPANDED IT MAY BE ADVISEABLE TO ENLARGE DNG ITSELF. IN ANY CASE, PROPOSAL TO HAVE ABOUT 20 MEMBERS SEEMS OVERLY CONSERVATIVE (OR OPTIMISTIC). IT IS UNLIKELY TO SATISFY LDC ASPIRATIONS FOR GREATER REPRESENTATION, IN GENERAL, AND IT MAY BE POLITIC, FROM SEVERAL POINTS OF VIEW, TO SUPPORT THEM IF THEY WERE TO TAKE INITIATIVE IN EXPANDING DNG TO AS MANY AS 30 OR 36 MEMBERS. THESE FIGURES REPRESENT ABOUT ONE-FOURTH OF UNESCO'S MEMBERSHIP AND, AS MULTIPLES OF 6, CORRESPONDING TO THE SIX ELECTORAL GROUPS, WOULD MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO SET UP NEARLY TWICE THE NUMBER OF GEOGRAPHICALLY REPRESENTATIVE SUB-GROUPS AS 20 WOULD PERMIT. UNLESS EXPECTATION WERE TO CONSTITUTE SUB-GROUPS OF WHOLE (WHICH WOULD BE INCOMPATIBLE WITH DG'S EMPHASIS ON FULL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND ACTIVE PARTICIPATION OF HEADS OF DELEGATION, THE LARGER NUMBER OF SUB-GROUPS WOULD MAKE IT EASIER FOR DNG TO TAKE ON THE INCREASED RESPONSIBILITIES REFERRED TO IN PARA. 4, ABOVE, AND WOULD ALSO FACILITATE SELECTION OF REPS. OF WEO ELECTORAL GROUP.

6. FINALLY, IT SEEMS ADVISEABLE, IN VIEW OF WORDING OF PARA. 4 OF REFDOC, TO ENTER CAVEAT AT BOARD RE ROLE OF

HEADS OF DELEGATIONS. LATTER WILL BE UNDER GREAT PRESSURE AT NAIROBI AND SUBJECT TO MANY COMPETING DEMANDS. AND IT IS UNREALISTIC TO ASSUME, AS DG APPEARS TO, THAT THEY CAN HANDLE THIS CRITICALLY IMPORTANT WORK BY THEMSELVES, EVEN THOUGH THEY WILL OBVIOUSLY WISH TO KEEP IN CLOSE AND CONTINUOUS TOUCH WITH THE DNG'S WORK.

7. IN DISCUSSIONS WITH OTHER IG MEMBERS, INDIVIDUALLY OR COLLECTIVELY, AND WITH OTHER DELS AND SECRETARIAT MEMBERS, PERM DEL SHOULD EMPHASIZE INFORMAL AND EXPLORATORY NATURE OF THESE CONTACTS, TO AVOID IG MEMBERS' ADOPTING FIRM POSITIONS AT THIS EARLY STAGE.

8. TO FACILITATE OUR FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF ITEM 6.2, WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING PERM DEL'S VIEWS AND REPORT ASAP. ROBINSON

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